What is claimed:

- 1. A ceramic article having a composition comprising u $(Al_2O_3-TiO_2) + v (R) + w (3Al_2O_3-2SiO_2) + x (Al_2O_3) + y (SiO_2) + z (1.1SrO-1.5Al_2O_3-13.6SiO_2-TiO_2) + a (Fe_2O_3-TiO_2) + b (MgO-2TiO_2), where, R is SrO-Al_2O_3-2SiO_2 or 11.2SrO-10.9Al_2O_3-24.1SiO_2-TiO_2, where u, v, w, x, y, z, a and b are weight fractions of each component such that <math>(u+v+w+x+y+z+a+b=1)$, and $0.5 < u \le 0.95$, $0.01 < v \le 0.5$, $0.01 < w \le 0.5$, $0 < x \le 0.5$, $0 < a \le 0.3$, and $0 < b \le 0.3$.
- 2. The ceramic article of claim 1 wherein R is SrO-Al₂O₃-2SiO₂.
- 3. The ceramic article of claim 1 wherein R is 11.2SrO-10.9Al₂O₃-24.1SiO₂-TiO₂.
- 4. The ceramic article of claim 1 having a CTE, as measured from room temperature to 800°C -1000°C of less than 45 x 10⁻⁷/°C.
- 5. The ceramic article of claim 4 having a CTE, as measured from room temperature to 800°C -1000°C of less than 25 x 10⁻⁷/°C.
- 6. The ceramic article of claim 5 having a CTE, as measured from room temperature to 800°C -1000°C of less than 5 x 10⁻⁷/°C.
- 7. The ceramic article of claim 1 having a porosity of up to 60% by volume.
- 8. The ceramic article of claim 7 having a porosity of up to 45% by volume.
- 9. The ceramic article of claim 8 having a porosity of up to 55% by volume.
- 10. The ceramic article of claim 1 having a median pore size of up to 25 micrometers.
- 11. The ceramic article of claim 10 having a median pore size of up to 20 micrometers.
- 12. The ceramic article of claim 11 having a median pore size of up to 15 micrometers.
- 13. The ceramic article of claim 1 having a four-point modulus of rupture as measured on a solid rod of circular cross section of greater than 400 pounds per inch (psi).

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- 14. The ceramic article of claim 13 having a four-point modulus of rupture as measured on a solid rod of circular cross section of greater than 700 psi.
- 15. A diesel particulate filter comprising the ceramic article of claim 1 and a plugged, wall-flow honeycomb filter body comprising a plurality of parallel end-plugged cell channels traversing the body from a frontal inlet end to an outlet end thereof.
- 16. The diesel particulate filer of claim 15 wherein the ceramic article has a composition comprising u $(Al_2O_3-TiO_2) + v(R) + w(3Al_2O_3-2SiO_2) + x(Al_2O_3) + y(SiO_2) + z$ $(1.1SrO-1.5Al_2O_3-13.6SiO_2-TiO_2) + a(Fe_2O_3-TiO_2) + b(MgO-2TiO_2)$, where, R is SrO-Al₂O₃-2SiO₂ or 11.2SrO-10.9Al₂O₃-24.1SiO₂-TiO₂, where u, v, w, x, y, z, a and b are weight fractions of each component such that (u+v+w+x+y+z+a+b=1), and u=0.6965, v=0.225, w=0.075, x=0, y=0, z=0, a=0.0035, and b=0.
- 17. The diesel particulate filter of claim 16 having a CTE, as measured from room temperature to 800°C -1000°C of less than 15 x 10⁻⁷/°C.
- 18. The diesel particulate filter of claim 17 having a CTE, as measured from room temperature to 800°C -1000°C of less than 5 x 10⁻⁷/°C.
- 19. The diesel particulate filter of claim 16 having a porosity of 30% to 50% by volume.
- 20. The diesel particulate filter of claim 19 having a porosity of 35% to 45% by volume.
- 21. The diesel particulate filter of claim 16 having a median pore size of 5 to 25 micrometers.
- 22. The diesel particulate filter of claim 21 having a median pore size of 10 to 15 micrometers.
- 23. The diesel particulate filter of claim 16 having a modulus of rupture as measured by on a cellular bar having a cell density of 200 cpsi and 0.016 inch thick walls, of 150 to 400 psi.
- 24. The diesel particulate filter of claim 23 having a modulus of rupture as measured by on a cellular bar having a cell density of 200 cpsi and 0.016 inch thick walls of 150 to 300 psi.
- 25. The diesel particulate filter of claim 16 having a permeability of at least 0.20 x 10⁻¹² m².

- 26. The diesel particulate filter of claim 25 having a permeability of at least 0.33 x 10⁻¹² m².
- 27. The diesel particulate filter of claim 16 having a pressure drop of 5 kPa or less at an artificial carbon soot loading of up to 5 g/L and a flow rate of 210 standard cubic feet per minute (scfm) for a cell density of 273 cells per square inch and a cell wall thickness of about 0.015 inches.
- 28. A method of making an aluminum titanate-based ceramic body comprising:
 - (a) formulating a batch of inorganic raw materials comprising sources of silica, alumina, strontium, titania, and/or iron oxide together with organic processing comprising plasticizers, lubricants, binders, and water as solvent, and mixing to form a homogeneous and plasticized mixture;
 - (b) shaping the plasticized mixture into a green body;

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- (c) heating the green body at 20-40°C/hr over various temperature intervals with hold temperature and times between $1100^{\circ}-1650^{\circ}$ C for a period of 30-50 hours to develop a ceramic having a composition comprising u (Al₂O₃-TiO₂) + v (R) + w (3Al₂O₃-2SiO₂) + x (Al₂O₃) + y (SiO₂) + z (1.1SrO-1.5Al₂O₃-13.6SiO₂-TiO₂) + a (Fe₂O₃-TiO₂) + b (MgO-2TiO₂), where, R is SrO-Al₂O₃-2SiO₂ or 11.2SrO-10.9Al₂O₃-24.1SiO₂-TiO₂, where u, v, w, x, y, z, a and b are weight fractions of each component such that (u+v+w+x+y+z+a+b=1), and $0.5 < u \le 0.95$, $0.01 < v \le 0.5$, $0.01 < w \le 0.5$, $0.01 < w \le 0.5$, $0.01 < x \le$
- 29. The method of claim 28 wherein the heating is between 1100°-1500°C.
- 30. The method of claim 28 wherein the shaping is done by extrusion.
- 31. The method of claim 30 wherein the plasticized mixture is extruded into a honeycomb green body.
- 32. The method of claim 28 wherein the ceramic has a composition comprising $u (Al_2O_3-TiO_2) + v (R) + w (3Al_2O_3-2SiO_2) + x (Al_2O_3) + y (SiO_2) + z (1.1SrO-1.5Al_2O_3-13.6SiO_2-TiO_2) + a (Fe_2O_3-TiO_2) + b (MgO-2TiO_2), where, R is SrO-Al_2O_3-2SiO_2 or 11.2SrO-10.9Al_2O_3-24.1SiO_2-TiO_2, where u, v, w, x, y, z, a and b are weight fractions of each component such that <math>(u+v+w+x+y+z+a+b=1)$, and u=0.6965, v=0.225, w=0.075, x=0, y=0, z=0, a=0.0035, and b=0.